



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND ISSUE FEE DUE

MM91/0915

BACON & THOMAS
625 SLATERS LANE- 4TH FLOOR
ALEXANDRIA VA 22314

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	TOTAL CLAIMS	EXAMINER AND GROUP ART UNIT	DATE MAILED
09/274,101	03/23/99	015	SAWHNEY, H.	2875 08/15/00
First Named Applicant	GWO-JUH,	35 USC 154(b) term ext. =	0 Days.	
TITLE OF INVENTION	BACKLIGHT SOURCE DEVICE			

ATTY'S DOCKET NO.	CLASS-SUBCLASS	BATCH NO.	APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	FEE DUE	DATE DUE
2	EM/JUH/4463	362-021.000	086 UTILITY	NO	\$1210.00	11/15/00

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.

THE ISSUE FEE MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.

HOW TO RESPOND TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

- A. If the status is changed, pay twice the amount of the FEE DUE shown above and notify the Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or
- B. If the status is the same, pay the FEE DUE shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

- A. Pay FEE DUE shown above, or
- B. File verified statement of Small Entity Status before, or with, payment of 1/2 the FEE DUE shown above.

II. Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned to the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) with your ISSUE FEE. Even if the ISSUE FEE has already been paid by charge to deposit account, Part B Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the ISSUE FEE to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give application number and batch number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

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Patent and Trademark Office**

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/274,101 03/23/99 GWO-JUH T EM/JUH/4463

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EXAMINER

SAWHNEY, H

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2875

DATE MAILED:

08/15/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/274,101

Examiner

Hargobind S Sawhney

Applicant(s)

GWO-JUH ET AL.

Art Unit

2875

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to 8/1/2000.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4 and 6-16.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 23 March 1999 are acceptable.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
1. ☒ received.
2. ☒ received in Application No. (Series Code / Serial Number) .
3. ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: .
5. ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. & 119(e).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY to comply with the requirements noted below is set to EXPIRE **THREE MONTHS** FROM THE "DATE MAILED" of this Office Action. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

6. ☐ Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION IS REQUIRED.
7. ☐ Applicant MUST submit NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS
(a) ☐ because the originally filed drawings were declared by applicant to be informal.
(b) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review(PTO-948) attached
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. .
(c) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed , which has been approved by the examiner.
(d) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the reverse side of the drawings. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

8. ☐ Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Any reply to this letter should include, in the upper right hand corner, the APPLICATION NUMBER (SERIES CODE / SERIAL NUMBER). If applicant has received a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, the ISSUE BATCH NUMBER and DATE of the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE should also be included.

Attachment(s)

- 1 ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
3 ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
5 ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. .
7 ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
- 2 ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
4 ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. .
6 ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8 ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9 ☐ Other

DETAILED ACTION

1. The amendment filed on August 01,2000 has been entered. Accordingly:

- the specification has been revised;
- the original abstract has been cancelled;
- a new abstract has been added;
- claim 5 has been cancelled; and
- claims 1 and 6-14 have been amended;

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-4 and 6-16 are allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The backlight source device disclosed by the applicant generally comprises the following elements recited in claim 1.

- A transparent light guide plate with front and rear surfaces;
- A plurality of diffusing units installed on the rear surface of the transparent light guide plate;
- The diffusing units with diffusing light guiding surfaces with continuously arranged different areas;
- A diffusing piece on the transparent light guide plate;

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- A reflecting piece below the transparent light guide plate; and
- A lateral light source.

The above indicated hardware elements of the backlight source device disclosed by the applicant are conventional, and are well known in the art.

However, the prior art of record fails to show or suggest the applicant's invention as claimed. Specifically, the prior art of record does not disclose proper motivation for combining the following features as recited in claim 1.

- Diffusing units formed as two diffusing unit sets and alternatively arranged on a transparent light guiding plate.

The above-indicated features and their arrangement make applicant's disclosure unique.

Ishikawa et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,575,549) in view of Ciupke (U.S. Patent No. 5,461,547) and Saito (U.S. Patent No. 5,779,337) teach most of the features claimed by the applicant. However, neither individual nor combined teaching of Ishikawa, Ciupke and Saito teaches the indicated above features that make applicant's disclosure unique.

Claims 2-16 are necessarily allowed as they depend on the allowed base claim 1.

Comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion


4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hargobind S, Sawhney whose telephone number is 703-306-5909. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 - 5:15.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on 703-305-4939. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-7724 for regular communications and 703-308-8303 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-2956.

HSS

08/10/2000


Sandra O'Shea
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800